reference images at a second set time interval T2 between the motion-compensated-image and said one reference image R1;

(b) calculating a second motion vector MV2 between the motion-compensated image and another reference image R2 of said plurality of reference images at a first set time interval T1 between the motion-compensated image and said another reference image R2, said second motion vector MV2 being parallel to said first motion vector MV1 and having a magnitude satisfying the relation $MV2=MV1\cdot(T1/T2)$;

A' cont'd

(c) calculating pixel values of said one reference image R1 from pixels at positions corresponding to said first motion vector MV1 and calculating pixel values of said second reference image R2 from pixels at positions corresponding to said second motion vector MV2, wherein said reference images R1 and R2 are such that a motion vector MV3 between said reference images R1 and R2 has a mathematical relationship with said first and second motion vectors MV1 and MV2 in which said motion vector MV3 is parallel to and different in value from each of said first and second motion vectors MV1 and MV2; and

(d) calculating motion-compensated pixel values of said motion-compensated image from said pixel values calculated in step (c) to obtain said motion-compensated image.

13. (Amended) A method of obtaining a motion-compensated image, said method comprising the steps of:

(a) obtaining a first motion vector MV1 between the motion-compensated-image and one reference image R1 of a plurality of reference images at a second set time interval T2 between the motion-compensated image and said one reference image R1;

(b) calculating a second motion vector MV2 between the motion-compensated image and another reference image R2 of said plurality of reference images at a first set time interval T1 between the motion-compensated image and said another reference image R2, said second motion vector MV2 being parallel to said first motion vector MV1 and having a magnitude satisfying the relation $MV2=MV1\cdot(T1/T2)$;

A' cancl.

(c) calculating pixel values of said one reference image R1 from pixels at positions corresponding to said first motion vector MV1 and calculating pixel values of said second reference image R2 from pixels at positions corresponding to said second motion vector MV2, wherein said reference images R1 and R2 are previous to said motion-compensated image in a time sequence; and

(d) calculating motion-compensated pixel values of said motion-compensated image from said pixel values calculated in step (c) to obtain said motion-compensated image.